



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sept. 27, 2002

American Indian Endowed Scholarship recipients named

OLYMPIA — The American Indian Endowed Scholarship selection committee has named 23 students who will receive scholarships for the current academic year.

The scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis to outstanding students with close social and cultural ties to an American Indian tribe. Recipients demonstrate academic merit and a commitment to serve the American Indian community in Washington.

“These award-winning students show great promise in their abilities to give back to their communities,” said Marc Gaspard, executive director of the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB). “The Board takes great pride in their achievements and interest in their goals for the future.”

Scholarship funds come from the interest earnings on an endowment established from by the Washington Legislature in 1990, with matching contributions from tribes, individuals and organizations. The HECB administers the scholarship program.

Along with the nine new \$1,000 awards this year, 10 undergraduate students will receive renewal scholarships for \$1,000 each, and three graduate students will receive renewal awards of \$1,500 each.

New to the program at the request of Gov. Gary Locke is the naming of a student as the “Joe De La Cruz Scholar,” honoring the memory of the late president of the Quinault Indian Nation. De La Cruz served as president of the Quinault Indian Nation from 1972 to 1994 and served two terms as president of the National Congress of American Indians. He led the National Tribal Chairman’s Association and Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians.

“Joe De La Cruz was a well-respected and beloved tribal leader,” Locke said. “It’s fitting that a scholarship has been named in his honor so that future generations can carry on his tireless crusade of advocating for the rights of Native Americans, not only in Washington but across the country.”

Andrea D. Arnold of Omak is the first Joe De La Cruz Scholar. As an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, she is pursuing a law degree at the University of Washington School of Law. She earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Portland. She plans to advocate for Indian policy issues.

The criteria for the scholarship winner emphasize the passion for one’s work on behalf of the American Indian community. Much of De La Cruz’s work benefited tribes across the nation, such as the Self-Governance Demonstration Project. The policy puts

control over government services such as police, health, land use and education in the hands of the tribes, rather than non-Indian entities. He was active in the Washington legislative arena and in county and local government issues, notably permitting and land use issues.

Anyone interested in contributing to the scholarship fund should send donations payable to: The Friends of American Indians in Education, c/o Augustine McCaffery, President, PO Box 45554, Seattle, Washington, 98145.

Name	Current residence	Tribal affiliation	Name of school	Initial class status	Major field of study
New recipients					
Andrea Arnold	Omak	Colville	UW Law	Graduate	Law
Timothy Brown	Seattle	Yakama	UW Engineering	Graduate	Water resources, hydrology, hydraulics
Linnea Corpuz	Wapato	Yakama	Heritage	Graduate	Master's in teaching
Jana Finkbonner	Bellingham	Lummi	The Evergreen State College	Graduate	Master's in public administration
Justin Jacob	Wapato	Yakama	WSU	Graduate	Mechanical engineering
Teresa Mowitch	Hoquiam	Quinault	The Evergreen State College	Graduate	Master's in public administration
Melissa Peterson	Neah Bay	Makah	Western Wash. University	Graduate	Teaching certification
Tracey Pierre	Seattle	Colville	UW	Graduate	Archaeology
Gregory Sutterli	Harrah	Yakama	Heritage	Junior	Linguistics
Neuee Vitalis	Neah Bay	Makah	City University	Graduate	Master's in teaching
Renewal recipients					
Geraldine L. Brickey	Tumwater	Cowlitz	The Evergreen State College	Junior	Human services
Cyndi M. Carter	Tacoma	Aleut	Univ Puget Sound	Graduate	Master's in physical therapy
Michelle Covington	Spokane	Colville	Gonzaga	Senior	Social sciences
Brandi DeSautel	Spokane	Colville	Spokane Falls Comm. College	Junior	Nursing/social work/child psychology
Kyle DeSautel	Spokane	Colville	Eastern Wash. University	Graduate	Business administration
Alethia I. Edwards	LaConner	Swinomish	NWIC*	Junior	Assoc. of Arts transfer degree
Lisa Halttunen	Olympia	Makah	UW	Junior	Pre-medicine
Annette Hayward	Bellingham	Tsimshian	Western Wash. University	Senior	Industrial design, environmental studies
Marcella Palmer	Pullman	Colville	WSU	Graduate	Counseling psychology
Cherokee R. Pettis	Seattle	Creek/Cherokee	UW	Senior	Social work
Kyle J. Shields	Wapato	Yakama	Western Wash. University	Sophomore	Geography
Benayshe-Ba-Equay Yee	Seattle	Shoshone, Ojibway, Karuk	Seattle University	Senior	History
Alternate					
Adelina Singson	Maple Falls	Nooksack	NWIC*	Sophomore	Anthropology
Honorary award					
Karen Bramer-Fortier	Port Orchard	Cherokee	UW/Medical	Graduate	Doctorate in family medicine

*Northwest Indian College

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